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Message Text

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21
ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 IO-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 OES-03 PC-01 USIA-06

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 AGR-05 INT-05

COME-00 IGA-01 EB-07 SR-02 ORM-01 SWF-01 TRSE-00

OMB-01 ABF-01 HEW-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 L-02 /080 W
---------- 025763
P R 190945Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2397
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652; N/A
TAGS: ECON SOCI SO
SUBJECT: DROUGHT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

REFERENCES: A. MOGADISCIO 1640
B. STATE 249160
C. STATE 252779

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SUMMARY: GSDR HAS STATED PUBLICLY THAT DROUGHT AFFECTING SEVEN REGIONS AND LIMITED NUMBER OF PEOPLE HAVE DIED. VP CULMIE HAS TOLD UNDP THAT GSDR DESIRES ASSISTANCE ONLY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. AID DISASTER RELIEF EXPERT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE ABLE TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY HERE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUM-STANCES. WE HAVE NO RPT NO REQUEST FROM SOMALIS FOR US ASSISTANCE AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER WE MUST
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HAVE SUCH REQUEST BEFORE WE COULD MAKE FUNDS AVAILABLE

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THROUGH UNDP. END SUMMARY.

2. NOVEMBER 16 OFFICIAL ORGAN OKTDOER SLER CARRIZOD
STATEMENT BY INTERIOR MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL TO
EFFECT THAT DROUGHT AFFECTS REGIONS OF SANAAG; NUGAAL;
TOGDHEER (EXCEPT SHEIKH DISTRICT); QARDHO, BEYLA AND ISKUHBAN
DISTRICTS OF BOSSASO; AND JERIBAN DISTRICT OF MUGHDUGH. DIRECTOR
GENERAL ADDED THAT ENTIRE REGIONS OF MUGHDUGH AND GALGUDUD
WOULD BE AFFECTED IF GOOD RAINS DO NOT RPT NOT COME SOON.

DIRECTOR GENERAL STATED THAT LIVESTOCK IN AFFECTED AREAS
HAVE EITHER DIED OR ARE VERY WEAK AND ADDED THAT,
"ALTHOUGH PEOPLE HAVE DIED OF STARVATION IN CERTAIN
PLACES, THEIR NUMBERS ARE LIMITED DUE TO THE CONCERTED
EFFORTS AND ASSISTANCE OF THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT."

3. DIRECTOR GENERAL STATED THAT CENTRAL DROUGHT COMMITTEE
UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP VP CULMIE HAS BEEN FORMED; REGIONAL
AND DISTRICT CHAIRMEN WILL PRESIDE OVER REGIONAL AND
DISTRICT COMMITTEES; THERE ARE ALSO COMMITTEES AT
VILLAGE AND COMMUNITY LEVELS. DIRECTOR GENERAL CALLED
FOR SLAUGHTERING OF CAMELS TO FEED FAMINE-
STRICKEN PEOPLE AND STATED THAT BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
TRANSPORTATION SHOULD BE USED TO MOVE WATER OR ANIMALS
AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE. HE ASKED ALL CITIZENS TO CON-
TRIBUTE MONEY OR TRANSPORT, AND GENERAL EXPECTATION
IN MOGADISCIO IS THAT CIVIL SERVANTS AND OTHERS WILL
SHORTLY BE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE PART OF THEIR WAGES.
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4. LOCAL UNDP HEAD TELLS US VP CULMIE TOLD THEM THAT
SOMALIS NOW HAVE 30,000 AFFECTED PERSONS
IN REFUGEE CAMPS AND THAT CULMIE HAD SEEN HUMAN CORPSES ALONG
ROADS WHEN FLYING OVER AFFECTED AREAS. UNDP HEAD HAD
IMPRESSION THAT GSDR QUITE WELL ORGANIZED TO COMBAT
DROUGHT, AS CULMIE HAD STACK OF REPORTS FROM AFFECTED
AREAS COVERING AVAILABILITY OF TRUCKS, NUMBER OF PEOPLE
AFFECTED, ETC. (THESE REPORTS HAVE NOT RPT
NOT BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO UNDP.)
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5. UNDP TELLS US (AND HAS INFORMED UNDRO GENEVA)
THAT CULMIE TOLD THEM NOVEMBER 14 THAT GSDR WANTED
ASSISTANCE ONLY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
SUCH AS UNDP AND EEC. (UNDP NOTED THIS REPRESENTED PULLBACK
FROM SOMALIS' HESITANT ACQUIESCENCE TO BILATERAL ASSISTANCE
(PARA 5, REF A). AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN SEEKING APPOINTMENT TO
DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH SOMALI OFFICIALS AND WILL SEE IF THAT

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BRINGS REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE, WHETHER THROUGH
BILATERAL CHANNEL OR THROUGH UNDP. AS NOTED PARA. 8 REF A,
WE FEEL UNDP CHANNEL MAY WELL BE BEST WAY TO DELIVER SUCH
ASSISTANCE.
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6. ARE WE CORRECT IN ASSUMING FROM REF B THAT WE NEED REQUEST FROM
SOMALISFOR ASSISTANCE EVEN IF WE EXTEND THIS ASSISTANCE THROUGH
UNDP?

7. UNDP INFORMS US THAT HAVE SOME $9,000 AVAILABLE AND ARE PRESSING
SOMALIS TO OUTLINE SPECIFIC NEEDS WHICH CAN BE MET WITH THIS MONEY.
UNDP WOULD SIMILARLY INSIST ON HAVING SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FROM
SOMALIS BEFORE TAKING UP ANY OFFER OF FUNDS. UNDP HAS

OFFERED TO MAKE LOCAL UNDP EXPERTS AVAILABLE TO HELP SOMALIS DRAW UP
THEIR REQUIREMENTS, BUT LATTER HAVE SAID THEY DO NOT RPT NOT NEED
SUCH ASSISTANEE AND HAVE
REFUSED TO PERMIT UNDP EXPERTS TO VISIT
DROUGHT-AFFECTED AREAS.

8. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE DO NOT RPT NOT FEEL AID/W DISASTER
RELIEF OFFICER WOULD BE ABLE FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY HERE. WE WILL
INFORM WASHINGTON AT ONCE IF SITUATION CHANGES.

9. UNDP TELLS US MEDICINES REFERRED TO PARA 3, REF A, ARE BEING

MADE AVAILABLE BY UNICEF AND WILL BE FLOWN TO MOGADISCIO ON SOMALI
AIRLINES COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS FROM ROME STARTING THIS WEEK.

10. WATER CONTAINERS REFERRED TO IN REF C WERE IN UNDP'S MIND
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TO BE CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN 5 GALLONS. OF COURSE 5 GALLON
CONTAINERS WOULD BE BETTER THAN NOTHING. WE ASSUME ANY US'
FUNDING WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT RESOLUTION OF PROBLEM OF SOMALI
REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE REFERRED TONIN PARA 6 ABOVE.
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Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, DROUGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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ISecure: 1
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